

Alumni Fellows and Mentors



Rayven Frierson

College: Salem State University

Major: Geography, **Minor:** Biology and Chemistry

Aspiration: Histologist

Mentor: [Dr. Sophia Koo](#)

Dr. Koo's laboratory focuses on identifying novel volatile metabolite biomarker signatures that can be harnessed to identify patients with various infectious diseases, particularly invasive aspergillosis, invasive mycoses, and the application of novel sensing methods to identify these signatures rapidly in the breath.



Stanley Aneke

College: UMass Amherst

Major: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Interests: Infections in Immunocompromised Patients (Transplant/Oncology), Bacterial Pathogenesis

Aspiration: Physician

Final Project topic: Examining Breath Profiles in Pneumonia

Mentor: [Dr. Sophia Koo](#)



Mahlet Aschalew

College: University of Maryland

Major: Biochemistry

Aspiration: Physician

Final Project Topic: Assays to quantify HTLV-1

Mentor: [Dr. Athe Tsibris](#)

Dr. Tsibris's lab leverage innovative experimental approaches to better understand HIV-1 and HIV-2 persistence and use these insights to design and test novel strategies to eliminate latently HIV-infected cells.



Amanda Ihama

College: University of Maryland

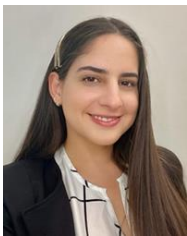
Major: Biology

Aspiration: Physician

Final Project Topic:

Mentor: [Dr. Jennifer Manne-Goehler](#)

Dr. Manne current projects include NIH-funded research on the prevention of metabolic disease in people with HIV and application of computer vision methods to improve evaluation of diabetes risk in this population.



Clarisel Lonzo Malagon

College: University of North Carolina

Major: Biology

Aspiration: Physician

Final Project Topic: Defining Factors that regulate Epstein Bar Virus Lytic Reactivation

Mentor: [Dr. Benjamin Gewurz](#)

Dr. Gewurz's laboratory studies Epstein-Barr virus and SARS-Coronavirus-2 pathogenesis and B-cell immunobiology. The gamma-herpesvirus Epstein Barr virus (EBV) is a master regulator of B-cell biology.



Marc-Kendy Paul

College: Worcester State Graduate

Major: Liberal Studies

Aspiration: Physician

Final Project Topic: Neutralizing antibody analysis for ACTIV 2 study

Mentor: [Dr. Jonathan Z. Li](#)

Dr. Li leads an active clinical and translational laboratory research program focused on viral detection, reservoirs and resistance, especially within the fields of HIV and COVID-19.



Daisy Lezo Ramirez

College: UCLA Extension Graduate

Major: Biochemistry

Aspiration: Physician

Final Project Topic: A Retrospective Review of Enrollment into Preventative Vaccine Clinical Trials at an Academic Medical Center: Examining Inclusion and Diversity

Mentors: [Dr. Amy Sherman](#) and [Dr. Stephen R. Walsh](#)

Dr. Sherman and Dr. Walsh have been investigators for the NIH COVID-19 Prevention Network (CoVPN) and has been involved with Phase 1-3 clinical trials for COVID-19 vaccines, including the Moderna mRNA-1273 vaccine, Johnson and Johnson vaccine, and Sanofi vaccine.



Yesenia Buenrostro Ramirez

College: California State University Fresno and Fresno City College Graduate

Major: Kinesiology

Aspiration: Physician

Final Project Topic: Characterization of a Cohort of Hospitalized Endocarditis Patients in a Single-Center Setting

Mentor: [Dr. Ann E. Woolley](#)

Dr. Woolley worked on the prevention of transmission of the hepatitis C virus (HCV) from infected organ donors to recipients in need of hearts or lungs in the DONATE HCV Trial, thereby expanding the pool of eligible heart and lung donor organs.